

Murray History Advisory Board  
June 22, 2010

In attendance: Kathy Romero, Steve Meyers, Jay Bollwinkel, David Adams, Lee Brinton, Mary Ann Kirk (staff).

Excused: Susan Wright

1. Minutes for May 25, 2010 were approved as written.
2. The state historic preservation office (SHPO) has invited us to submit another supplemental grant application. We will apply for a grant to hire a professional engineering company to evaluate the Hoffman Building in more depth with the intent to possibly include the building in the performing arts center design. This space could possibly be used for an art gallery, box office, administrative office and conference rooms, and storage. Mary Ann explained that Salt Lake County is beginning a grant process in September for performing arts facility even though they don't have money right now. The county will allow groups to ask for up to 50% of a project and 10% of the amount the applicant is asking for must be in hand or already spent. Since we purchased this property, the amount can be applied to this requirement. Jay asked how much the building is projected to cost. Mary Ann said the original design was estimated at \$12 million. Jay said that would be substantially less. Construction costs are coming in much as 50% less. Jay said they can't estimate low enough right now. It keeps going down. Mary Ann said a bond could lock in a low interest rate and could be held for several years. Jay suggested it would be really smart to move this project forward right now because it will get the whole project moving quicker. A parking structure is needed but it makes more sense to go in with the performing arts center.
3. Mary Ann reminded the board of the city open house on June 29 for the downtown master plan and encouraged them to attend. They will be presenting an ordinance at the meeting that clarifies how significant historic buildings are designated with hardship definitions. It will have language that will protect these buildings with some wiggle room for major developments. In its draft form, it retains all of the buildings we have suggested as significant but does remove City Hall from this list. The biggest concern was allowing a building to be demolished and then nothing goes up in its place. Steve and David said Sugarhouse and the Cottonwood Mall are examples of this. Bonnyview is another example in Murray. The owner thought it would sell faster without the building and yet it still sits vacant. Another concern was maintaining the buffer or transition area on Center Street. Lee who lives in this area is very concerned about it. He feels if you don't stop on State Street, where do you stop the commercial area. Mary Ann said he can attend the meeting to view the proposal and ordinance and voice his concerns. Jay said they usually use step up suggestions. He thought height is needed but you need to pick your places. Mary Ann said the city council will decide the philosophies regarding historic preservation and buffering residential areas.
4. Mary Ann noted that city wants us to hold off on fundraising and allow the city council to

discuss funding options with state agencies on August 3 and follow up with a discussion on the overall philosophy of historic preservation two weeks later on August 17. Mary Ann will invite Barbara Murphy from state history to talk about what a CLG program provides for communities. Kirk Huffacker will talk about preservation in general, and Wilson Martin may discuss how communities fund historic preservation. There are a number of funding sources for historic preservation. Some have very large sums of money such as the federal Save America's Treasures grant program. Steve suggested we invite Draper to talk about what they have done. South Jordan received an award for preserving a home. Mary Ann suggested the board's role is to identify historic resources in the community and then work with others to explore how to fund projects where needed.

5. Mary Ann will be taking a national team around a few locations to talk about historic preservation for the National America in Bloom judging. It has a significant component related to historic preservation.
6. Mary Ann has organized a tentative plan for historic preservation workshops on September 18. We will have a tour and workshops around the Cahoon Mansion with Don Hartley from state history and Robert Young who has actually updated and restored a historic building. She is thinking about a bus tour around Murray. She didn't know if that is too much in one day. The board thought it was worth a try. Steve thinks it is fun to hear some of the stories and histories about the various buildings.
7. David asked why the mural by the hospital is looking clouded. Mary Ann explained the coating to protect the artwork was applied to the front of the mural as recommended by a paint company. The water is coming through the cement from the back and has caused the coating on the front to crack and give a cloudy look. We have spoken with some painting companies and contacted the artists who say we will need to repaint the mural and then seal it from both sides. With tight budgets, the City can't afford to do it right now.
8. Board members reviewed a list of goals and projects for history. The draft includes goals directly from the wording in the city ordinance and then how we implement each goal. It includes historic preservation and our local registry, the museum, and educating the public about historic resources. There are a few items we could focus on.
  - a. Put our registry on the website. Jay suggested an intern could do this. David suggested we could put demolished buildings on the website. This would be far cheaper than publishing a book. This could also be used for classroom research.
  - b. Create a landmark list and raise funds where needed but this could be done after the meeting with the city.
  - c. Look for preservation projects that could be recognized.
  - d. Museum projects. The board would like to take a tour of the museum.
  - e. Organize school history fairs but teachers and parents have not wanted to do them because it is a lot of work and takes time away from curriculum.

- f. Recognize 10 years since stacks were demolished. Lee suggested we ask IMC to be involved. It may be too late to do this and IMC already recognized the stacks when they did the plaza.

Jay suggested the website should be a priority. It can address several items on the goals and project list. Lee suggested it could be used for high school reunions. Board members agreed. Landmarks and fundraising may be another priority but Jay suggested we let the discussion move through the city discussion.

- 9. Board members decided to move their July meeting to August 3 and we can visit the museum.